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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Eleventh Meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole

Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
5 - 12 May 1990

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fifth session of the Commission/ sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
15 - 19 May 1990

LG/NAIROBI.

MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY AND SECTORAL ORGANS OF THE COMMISSION

Summary of recommendations and resolutions

1. This document summarizes the reports and resolutions adopted by the subsidiary and sectoral organs of the Commission which have held meetings since its last session.

I. NINTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY

2. The ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, jointly organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), was held in Harare, Zimbabwe from 29 to 31 May 1989.

3. The Conference considered the progress made in the industrialization of African countries and, particularly, the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) programme as well as the role that industry played in the region's recovery and development. The Ministers also considered proposals made by the committee of intergovernmental experts and agreed on measures to be taken by member States, intergovernmental organizations and the international community as a whole so as to speed up Africa's industrialization.

4. The meeting adopted the following resolutions and decisions:

(a) Resolution 1(XVI): African common position on the third General Conference of UNIDO

5. This resolution was adopted as the African common position in view of negotiations at the third ordinary session of the General Conference of UNIDO.

6. This resolution includes:

(i) The annual reports of the Director-General for 1987 and 1988 on the work of the organization institutional arrangements of UNIDO for Africa;

(ii) New concepts and approaches for co-operation in respect to industrial development in conformity with Article 2(2) of the constitution of UNIDO;

(iii) The Industrial Development Decade for Africa, including the contribution of UNIDO to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990;

(iv) Technical assistance to the Namibian people;

(v) The external debt and industrial development;

(vi) Development and transfer of human resources, technology and development;

(vii) Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (ECDC/TCDC);

(viii) Progress of industrialization in African least developed countries;

(ix) Programme and budgets of UNIDO.

(b) Resolution 717 (XXVI): Proclamation of a second industrial Development Decade for Africa and formulation of a programme for that Decade

7. This resolution contains the time-table for the preparation and adoption of a programme for the second IDDA.

(c) Resolution 718 (XXVI): UNIDO

8. This resolution assists UNIDO to tap and more African expertise in the technical assistance and other activities that it undertakes in Africa as well as to increasing the number of African nationals in the secretariat, particularly at the decision-making level and in the SIDFA programme.

(d) Resolution 719 (XXVI): Vote of thanks to the President, people, Part, and Government of Zimbabwe

9. The summary of the report as well as details on resolutions and decisions adopted are contained in document E/ANI.9/22/Rev.1.

II. SEVENTH UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

10. The Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 5 to 11 September 1990, in accordance with resolution 602 (XXIII) adopted in April 1982 by the ECA Conference of Ministers.

11. The Conference considered the status of topographical mapping in Africa as well as advances in cartographic and remote sensing techniques. It also considered issues relating to education, training and research in cartography and remote sensing for developing countries, the regional machinery for the co-ordination of linguistic divisions of the United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, implementation of resolutions and recommendations of the Sixth Conference as well as country and institutional reports.

12. The Conference adopted a recommendation concerning participants and heads of national cartographic institutions as well as resolutions on: the Eighth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa, the co-ordination of linguistic divisions for the standardization of geographical names, aid needed for training and acquisition of mapping and remote sensing equipment for African countries that need hydrographic surveying and nautical charting services and a nomenclature of undersea feature names.

13. The Conference also adopted a vote of thanks to the President, people and Government of Burkina Faso.

14. The account of proceedings as well as the recommendations and resolutions adopted are contained in document E/ECA/HPD/CHAM 1/2 of December 1989.

III. FIFTH CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

15. The fifth meeting of African Ministers of Social Affairs, jointly organized by the secretariats of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Organization of the African Unity (OAU), was held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 27 and 28 October 1989.

16. The Conference considered the following agenda items:

(a) The rules of procedure of the Conference;

(b) Activities of the secretariats since the fourth Conference;

(c) The African social situation and its implications for socio-economic development;

(d) The African Charter for Social Action; and

(e) Institutions under the Conference.

17. The Conference adopted resolutions on: the current status of the African family; the participation of youth in development; rural structural transformation and development in Africa; training of professional social workers for social development; particular attention to issues on social development programmes; women in development in Africa; the African Rehabilitation Institute; the situation of refugees, displaced persons and victims of natural disasters; the report on OAU secretariat activities; the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development; the African Charter for Social Action; and the decade of the African Child.

18. The Conference also adopted the rules of procedure of the African Ministers of Social Affairs; the African Charter for Social Action; an amendment to the Agreement establishing the African Rehabilitation Institute and an amendment to the Agreement establishing the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development.

19. The account of proceedings as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted are contained in document E/ECA/OAU/HPD/V/89.

IV. SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND PLANNING

20. The seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, was held on 13 and 14 November 1989 in Tangier, Morocco. The meeting considered the report of the meeting of experts which dealt with objectives, strategies and guidelines of UNTACDA II, progress report on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the sixth meeting of the Conference; implementation of the Yamoussoukro Declaration on a New African Air Transport Policy; Report of the Special Meeting of African Ministers of Maritime Transport; reports on the PANAFTEL network and the RASCOM project; the African Road Safety Congress as well as trans-African highways.

21. The meeting also considered and adopted the new time-table for the preparation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa as well as resolutions on:

(a) Preparation of the programme for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

(b) Implementation of the Yamoussoukro Declaration on a new African Air Transport Policy;

(c) Transport corridors in Africa;

(d) Trans-African highways and road safety in Africa; and

(e) The Regional African Satellite Communications System.

22. The account of proceedings and resolutions adopted are found in document E/ECA/CM.16/66.

V. SIXTH MEETING OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

23. The sixth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 5 to 10 November 1984.

24. The meeting considered issues arising from the report of the fifth Committee meeting held in 1982 as well as activities of the subregional working groups.

25. It also considered the progress made on the development and dissemination of rural technologies; the end-of-Decade review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology Development; laws governing patents in Africa as well as policies and mechanisms for the accelerated development and application of science and technology in Africa.

26. The meeting adopted a resolution on the strengthening of African capabilities for the development and application of science and technology in the 1990s.

27. The account of proceedings as well as the draft resolution are contained in document ST/IGLES/E/84/10.

VI. FOURTH AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

28. The fourth African Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development was held in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria, from 6 to 10 November 1984.

29. The Conference considered the implementation of strategies for the improvement of women's access to education and training in science and technology; the improvement of African women's role in the informal sector; the contribution of resources to women's programme within the context of

Africa's food and debt crises; and the status of women and children displaced because of apartheid, drought and desertification. The Conference also celebrated the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development.

30. It adopted the Abuja Declaration on African women's participation in development in the 1990s.

31. Resolutions were also adopted on: African women's participation in development in the 1990s; women and apartheid; solidarity with the Namibian Government; women in global and regional strategies; follow-up of Nairobi Regional Conference and the implementation of the Abuja Declaration and the Africa Regional Co-ordination Committee for the Integration of Women in Development.

32./ The account of proceedings and the Abuja Declaration are found in document E/ECA/ATRCW/90.4 of 10 November 1989.

VII. TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF TRADE

33. The tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade was held in Addis Ababa on 17 and 18 November 1989. The meeting considered issues relating to the continent's domestic intra-African and international trade; the draft Addis Ababa strategies for revitalizing Africa's trade recovery and growth in the 1990s, as well as the report of the fifth All-Africa Trade Fair and preparations for the sixth All-Africa Trade Fair.

34. With regard to consideration of Africa's trade in all its aspects, the Conference recognized that it was necessary to set certain priorities with regard to the development of trade information, direct support to trade operators in both the public and private sectors so as to revitalize intra-African and Africa's external trade.

35. As concerns the draft Addis Ababa strategies for revitalizing Africa's trade recovery and growth in the 1990s, the Conference recognized that those strategies constituted an important document intended to operationalize the effective implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. The Conference thus resolved to defer consideration and adoption of the strategies to an extraordinary session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade to be held at a later date.

36. The Conference adopted a resolution on the draft Addis Ababa strategies for revitalizing Africa's trade recovery and growth in the 1990s.

37. The account of proceedings as well as the resolution adopted by the Conference are contained in document E/ECA/TRADE/89.2.

VIII. SECOND MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF TOURISM

38. The second meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism was held in Addis Ababa on 24 and 25 November 1989. The Conference considered the report of the meeting of governmental tourism experts held from 21 to 23 November 1989. The relevant report (E/ECA/TRANS/89.6 of 6 November 1989) covers the following issues: implementation of resolutions adopted by the Windhoek Conference, joint development and promotion of tourism in Africa, hotel management and women's participation in the development of tourism in Africa.

contractual relations between hotel owners and transnational hotel management corporations in Africa and tourism manpower development in Africa. The meeting adopted seven resolutions on: the promotion of the African tourist product; African tourism year; intra-African co-operation in tourism; terms of reference of the All-African Trade Fairs Committee; human resources development, participation of women in the development of tourism in Africa; contractual relations between hotel owners and transnational hotel management corporations; and the guide for the management of small and medium-sized hotels.

39. The account of proceedings as well as details on resolutions adopted are contained in document E/ECA/TRANS/87.

IX. SIXTH SESSION OF THE JOINT CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN PLANNERS, STATISTICIANS AND DEMOGRAPHERS

40. The sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 15 to 20 January 1990.

41. During the plenary session, the Conference considered agenda items relating to the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1989-1990; the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery with Transformation (AAF-SAPs); progress report on the follow-up of AAF-SAPs; and technical assistance in planning, statistics, demography and data processing.

42. The Planning Committee focused on the agenda items concerning: the ECA socio-economic model for AAF-SAPs; study of AAF-SAP policy instruments; harmonization and co-ordination of national development plans at the sub-regional level; the African Institute for Economic Development (IDEP); and ECA's 1988-1989 work programme.

43. The Statistics Committee considered agenda items relating to the integrated approach to statistical development; implementation programmes for Africa's environmental statistics; indicators for the follow-up of progress accomplished in respect of social objectives to be attained during the 1990s; the UNDP/World Bank/ECA project on the collection of data on development programmes and aid flows; implementation of the Statistics Division's 1988-1989 work programme; consideration of the approved 1990-1991 work programme and consideration of the draft 1992-1993 work programme and the 1992-1997 draft medium-term plan.

44. The Demography Committee considered: evaluation of data per age group and sex and censuses in Africa; evaluation of national experiences in respect of the implementation of population policies in ECA member States in the light of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action; roles relating to mother-and-child health programmes and family planning; closely linked determinants and socio-economic correlations which affect fertility; the report on PRODEV, PIMS and CERPOD as well as population activities carried out during 1988-1989; consideration of the approved 1990-1991 work programme, the draft 1992-1993 work programme, and the 1992-1997 medium-term plan.

45. The Information Science Committee considered agenda items relating to progress achieved in the establishment of national, sub-regional and institutional centres which participate in the PADIS network; PADIS activities

during 1986-1989; consideration of the approved 1990-1991 work programme, the draft 1992-1993 work programme and the 1992-1997 medium-term plan.

46. The Joint Conference adopted resolutions concerning improvement in the flow of information in the African region; the future of African demographic training institutes; and the Statistical Development Programme in Africa in the 1990s.

47. The account of proceedings of the Joint Conference as well as resolutions adopted are contained in document E/ECA/PDD.6/2 of 30 January 1990.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

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LC/NAIROBI

FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON OTHER RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION/FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

1. The twenty-fourth session of the Commission and fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning was held at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 10 April 1989. The meeting adopted 22 resolutions embracing various socio-economic development issues in the region of Africa. Among those resolutions, six were addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The actions taken on those resolutions are reported in document E/ECA/CM.16/27 entitled "Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1989 and by the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-fourth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa". The other resolutions were addressed to member States, the ECA Executive Secretary, organs of the United Nations and other organizations. The purpose of the present document is, therefore, to provide the meeting with an account of action taken by the ECA secretariat towards the implementation of some of those other resolutions addressed to the Executive Secretary.

Resolution 656 (XXIV): Proclamation of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

2. After the adoption of this resolution, the secretariat submitted it to the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry held in May 1989 in Harare, Zimbabwe, together with the report on the independent mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) programme. After considering the two documents, the Conference adopted resolution 2 (IX) establishing a timetable for the preparation of the programme for a second IDDA.

3. In July 1989, the ECA resolution was put before the Industrial Development Board at its fifth meeting, together with resolution 2 (IX) of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. The Industrial Development Board endorsed the timetable prepared by the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry along with the recommendations of the independent team of experts entrusted with the mid-term evaluation of the first IDDA and adopted decision IDB.5/Dec/7 of 6 July 1989 in which it recommended that the third General Conference of UNIDO should request the General Assembly of the United Nations to proclaim, at its forty-fourth session, a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa. The Board also recommended that the $US 8.6 million allocated in the 1990-1991 programme budget of UNIDO for a special programme for Africa should be earmarked for the proposed second IDDA.

4. After considering the ECA Conference of Ministers resolution and taking into account the recommendation of the fifth meeting of the Industrial Development Board, the 1989 second regular session of ECOSOC adopted resolution

1989/115 which also requested the General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, to consider proclaiming the period 1991-2000 as the second IDDA. The ECOSOC resolution further requested that the Secretary-General should provide the General Assembly with proposals and cost estimates for the preparation of the programme for the second IDDA on the basis of the timetable proposed by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry in resolution 2 (IX), and in consultation with the Director General of UNIDO.

5. Following the adoption of the ECOSOC resolution, a report on the preparations for the second IDDA was prepared by ECA in consultation with UNIDO in September 1989 and sent to the Office of the Controller in New York through the Regional Commissions Liaison Office. The report included cost estimates of the preparatory phase (January 1990-June 1991) of the second IDDA, amounting to $US 1,540,440 of which $US 669,040 should be provided under the regular budget of the United Nations and the balance by UNIDO from the resources already allocated.

Resolution 658 (XXIV): Strengthening development information systems in Africa

6. The resolution commended the Governments of Zambia and Zaire for their support of the PADIS projects on the establishment of the Eastern and Southern African Development Information System (ESADIS) and the Central African Development Information System (CADIS) respectively. However, since the adoption of the resolution, government actions towards the establishment of the systems have not been forthcoming. Although the necessary computer equipment has been installed in Lusaka, the Government of Zambia has yet to appoint staff to operate the centre, as per the host country agreement. With regard to CADIS, the arrival of the Zaire Government delegation, which was signalled in April 1989, to sign the host country agreement, is still awaited. It is hoped that the Governments will soon take the necessary action for the fulfillment of their respective commitments under the host country agreements.

7. North African countries have begun their participation in PADIS through UNDP project RAB/88/012. Several training activities, organized by PADIS and sponsored by other co-operating institutions, have taken place since the approval of the project.

8. ECA member States and their missions in New York showed their support for PADIS in the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations, by trying to secure the necessary inputs for PADIS under the regular budget of the United Nations for the period 1990-1991. Since the request for regular budget posts for PADIS was not approved, the Committee noted that efforts should be made to secure continuation of extrabudgetary funding for PADIS. Should that not be forthcoming, it was noted, actions would be taken to secure the continuation of PADIS from the regular budget.

9. Since the adoption of the resolution, six additional member States have nominated national participating centres in the PADIS network, bringing to 28 the number of such centres.

10. No decision has yet been made by UNDP regarding the continuation of funding for the personnel component of PADIS Phase III through to the end of the fourth programming cycle; however, a tripartite review of the project has been scheduled upon appointment of the new director. Following that review, a decision will be taken. IDRC has indicated its willingness to continue support to PADIS through the consideration of a new grant for computer-based networks in Africa. Other donors who have funded PADIS activities since the adoption of this resolution are the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

11. A subprogramme of substantive activities for development information systems in Africa has been developed in the draft Medium-term Plan for 1992-1997, which is still under review.

12. Since the adoption of this resolution, PADIS has intensified its marketing efforts. It has produced a paper entitled "Guidelines for the marketing of information products and services in Africa".

Resolution 659 (XXIV): Review of the achievements of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Commission in order to strengthen them

13. The field mission, consisting of visits to all the five MULPOC headquarters and to selected member States, was completed by the end of May 1989. The Review Team met twice to draft its report which was presented to the Executive Secretary of ECA and to the United Nations Under-Secretary General for Administration and Management. The report (E/ECA/CM.16/18) is being submitted to the twenty-fifth session of the Commission/sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers for its consideration and comments as requested by the resolution. The report will then be transmitted to the General Assembly through ECOSOC.

Resolution 660 (XXIV): Prevention and strengthening of subregional, regional and international co-operation in the fight against migrant locusts in Africa

14. In compliance with this resolution, a project proposal for the "Establishment of an African Regional Locust Monitoring Network" has been prepared. The proposal was to be considered by Project Analysis and Appraisal Committee (PAAC) for funding from UNFPA on 24 November 1989. It is hoped that by the time of the Conference of Ministers more information will be available.

Resolution 663 (XXIV): Creation of an African Economic Association

15. In line with resolution 663 (XXIV) on the creation of an African Economic Association (AEA), the Steering Preparatory Committee of the Association met from 26 to 28 September 1989 to review and amend the draft constitution and the rules of procedure of the Association. These documents were finalized and circulated to several members who originally initiated the Association. The final document of the draft constitution and the rules of procedure were to be submitted at the General Assembly of the Association at its inaugural meeting

scheduled to be held from 9 to 11 January 1990. The ECA secretariat has endeavoured to secure funds from UNDP in order to cover the travel costs of economists who are invited to attend the inaugural meeting in January 1990, during which the officials of the Association will be nominated.

Resolution 666 (XXIV): Strengthening the capabilities of subregional and regional structures for the integration of women in development

16. This resolution contained seven operative paragraphs addressed to member States and ECA, three of which dealt with the fourth Regional Conference on the implementation of the Arusha Strategies and the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee (ARCC). As recommended, both these events were organized by the secretariat in Abuja, Nigeria, from 6 to 10 November 1989. ECA was able to mobilize funds from donor agencies such as SIDA, UNDP and UNIFEM. The funds went into supplementing ECA's own resources in order to meet the cost of participation in the Conference. The Nigerian Government contributed generously towards the organization of the Conference. High-level delegations led by decision makers were expected from governments and observer groups as stipulated in the resolution.

17. The other four operative paragraphs concerned ECA women's programmes at the subregional level. Substantive programmes for the advancement of women continue to be incorporated in the overall programmes of the MULPOCs in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 40/135. Except for North Africa, the subregional committees on women in development, set up through funds from UNDP, have not, however, been able to meet. Hence, in this resolution, member States are requested to take appropriate steps to extend the mandates of the bureaux of these subregional committees and that of ARCC. On the other hand, the Executive Secretary is urged to mobilize resources for the women's programmes in the MULPOCs. The secretariat is continuing to make every effort in this respect, of particular relevance to the reformulation of the programme at subregional level and the recommendations made on the subject by the fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development.

Resolution 667 (XXIV): Measures for strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa's special programme for least developed, land-locked and island countries

18. In compliance with resolution 667 (XXIV) requesting the Executive Secretary of the Commission to take appropriate action to strengthen the special programme for the least developed, land locked and island countries and to report on developments to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African least Developed Countries, a request for additional staff resources was submitted to the Director General for Development and International Economic Co-operation whose response is still awaited.

Resolution 668 (XXIV): Economic Report on Africa and Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa

19. In accordance with resolution 668 (XXIV), the secretariat prepared and presented to the Conference and disseminated to member States and other users the 1990 issue of The Economic Report on Africa. The 1988-1989 issue of the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa had also been prepared and made available to users. The secretariat is receiving collaboration from member States in its data collection exercise. However, late returns of the questionnaire continues to impede the timeliness of the preparation of these documents.

Resolution 669 (XXIV): African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

20. In accordance with resolution 669 (XXIV) on the future funding of the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning and ECOSOC resolution 1989/117, the ECA secretariat and IDEP management held consultative meetings with UNDP on the financing and future development of the Institute. To that effect, UNDP indicated its interest to continue its assistance to the Institute in 1990 only under the following conditions:

(a) A commitment by African Governments to support IDEP;

(b) A decision on IDEP's restructuring; and

(c) An evaluation mission by the beginning of 1990 to assess the financial requirements of IDEP in 1990.

21. Accordingly, African Governments were requested as a matter of urgency to pay their contribution and accumulated arrears and the Sub-committee of the Governing Council met in Dakar from 15 to 17 November 1989 on the restructuring of the Institute in terms of the basic activities and the restructuring of the salaries. On the other hand, the ECA secretariat had requested the inclusion of IDEP's work programme in the Commission's work programme for the biennium 1990-1991 with a view to incorporating IDEP's core staff (four posts) in the United Nations regular budget. However, this attempt was not successful and efforts are now being made to include IDEP's work programme in the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 1992-1993. At the meantime, the ECA secretariat had provided IDEP with three posts at the P.5 (2) and P.4 (1) levels to enable the Institute to carry out its basic functions.

Resolution 670 (XXIV): Establishment of the African Monetary Fund

22. Pursuant to the decision of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance held in Libreville, Gabon from 16 to 19 June 1986, an Ad hoc Ministerial Committee was established to consider the outstanding issues related to the establishment of an African Monetary Fund.

23. The Committee, known as the "Committee of Libreville", first met in Libreville, Gabon from 31 March to 7 April 1987 and considered outstanding issues relating to the establishment of an African Monetary Fund, such as: subscription to the capital of the Fund, including size of the capital of the Fund and payment of subscriptions; membership in the Fund; size of membership of the Board of

Executive Directors and external participation in subscriptions to the capital of the Fund. After deliberating on these issues, the Committee adopted the following revised time-table regarding the establishment of an African Monetary Fund: [1]

(a) June 1987 - Second meeting of the Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on the establishment of an African Monetary Fund;

(b) November 1987 - Fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts;

(c) November 1987 - Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance;

(d) June 1988 - Sixth meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Articles of Agreement establishing the African Monetary Fund;

(e) July 1988 - Progress report to the African Heads of State and Government;

(f) March 1989 - Fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance to adopt the Articles of Agreement;

(g) September 1989 - Meeting of Plenipotentiaries to sign the Articles of Agreement of the African Monetary Fund;

(h) January 1990 - Payment of first capital subscriptions to the Fund by member States; and

(i) June 1990 - Coming into operation of the Articles of Agreement and commencement of operations of the African Monetary Fund.

24. In line with the decision of the African Heads of State and Government regarding the establishment of the African Monetary Fund [2] and recognizing the important role that the institution will play in overcoming Africa's current monetary and financial crisis and with a view also to securing its contribution to the implementation of structural adjustment programmes, the African Ministers of Finance, at their third meeting held in Blantyre, Malawi, from 6 to 8 March 1989, decided to reactivate and expand the Committee of Libreville.

25. At its fifteenth meeting, the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, regretting the considerable delay in establishing the African Monetary Fund, decided that the expanded Committee of Libreville should examine all outstanding issues in great detail by taking all

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[1] Report of the first meeting of the Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on the Establishment of an African Monetary Fund (E/ECA/TRADE/13).

[2] See para. 254 (6) of the Lagos Plan of Action.

the necessary measures to ensure the speedy establishment of the Fund and submit its progress report to the next Conference of African Ministers of Finance scheduled to be held in October 1990.

26. Consequently, the expanded Committee of Libreville held its first meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 11 and 12 April 1989. It was attended by representatives of Ethiopia, Gabon, Malawi, Morocco, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Uganda, Zaire and representatives from the Banque centrale des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (BCEAO), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the African Development Bank (ADB), the African Centre for Monetary Studies (ACMS), the West African Clearing House (WACH) and the Central African Clearing House (CACH). The following issues were considered:

(a) Progress report on the establishment of the African Monetary Fund;

(b) Particular matters relating to the establishment of the African Monetary Fund; and

(c) Appropriate measures to be taken for the speedy establishment of the African Monetary Fund.

27. After extensive discussions, the expanded Committee decided that:

(a) Further in-depth studies should be carried out on the objectives, structure and operations of the proposed African monetary fund in the light of current developments in the financial and monetary fields; and

(b) Extensive consultations should be held with African subregional monetary and financial institutions and governors of central banks who should be more involved in the work of establishing the fund.

28. Also, an *Ad hoc* technical sub-committee composed of governors of central banks of the member States of the expanded Committee of Libreville was set up at that meeting in accordance with the decision adopted by the third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance. It was mandated to examine carefully the objectives, institutional framework and operational modalities of the African Monetary Fund, draw on the experiences that other regions had had in setting up similar institutions and prepare a comprehensive report on the technical aspects of the unresolved issues. It was agreed that the joint secretariat composed of ADB, ACMS, BCEAO and ECA should continue to provide secretarial and technical support to the *Ad hoc* Technical Sub-Committee and the expanded Committee of Libreville.

29. Again, with a view to implementing the decision of the ECA Conference of Ministers, an Expert Group Meeting on the Establishment of the African Monetary Fund was to be held in Addis Ababa from 20 to 24 November 1989. That meeting was expected to review the following main issues:

(a) Identification of major developments in the monetary and financial institutions at subregional, regional and international levels with a view to

determining their consequences on African growth prospects as well as the expected role of the African Monetary Fund and measures required to effect the structural transformation of the economies of African countries with a view to reducing their external monetary and economic dependence and simultaneously promoting monetary integration at the continental level as envisaged in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos;

(b) Review of the revised technical feasibility study on the establishment of an African Monetary Fund and its recommendations so as to identify critical issues that should be included in the Draft Agreement establishing the African Monetary Fund; and

(c) Determination of whether the proposed African Monetary Fund was indeed required at the current stage in Africa's social and economic development and how its relationship with existing institutions should be devised. The experts would also determine whether the African Centre for Monetary Studies could be made the nucleus of the fund.

30. The Expert Group meeting was to consider a document entitled "Feasibility study on the proposed African Monetary Fund" (E/ECA/CM.15/23) which had been updated in 1989 by the staff of ACMS, ECA and AfDB in consultation with the OAU staff as the main background document on which the Expert Group would base its review of the technicalities in the establishment of an African Monetary Fund.

31. Finally, the meeting had requested to make concrete and practical recommendations on proposals that would enable African countries to speed up the establishment of the African Monetary Fund.

Resolution 811 (XXV): The current economic situation in Africa

32. In this resolution, the Conference of Ministers expressed deep concern that in many respects the World Bank/UNDP report entitled "Africa's Adjustment and Growth in the 1980s" was at variance with the mid-term review of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development at the regional level (UN PAAERD), conducted by the forty-third session of the General Assembly, and also with the reality of the African economic situation and called on the Executive Secretary "to publish a paper highlighting the technical and statistical variances contained in the World Bank/United Nations Development Programme report, for an objective evaluation of the economic situation on the continent". It also requested that the "Commission's paper should be widely disseminated".

33. In compliance with the aforementioned directives, the Commission published and widely disseminated, both within and outside Africa, a document entitled "Statistics and Policies: ECA Preliminary Observations on the World Bank Report: Africa's Adjustment and Growth in the 1980s". ECA's document refuted the arguments of the World Bank/UNDP study, doing in many instances the raw data of

the World Bank and citing other reports of the World Bank on the impact of adjustment and Africa's long-term development perspectives.

34. The arguments made in ECA's response have in general been well received by all concerned and have also been the subject of extensive commentary by the international press and media.

Resolution 673 (XXIV): Contributions by the Economic Commission for Africa to the preparation of the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade

35. In response to resolution 673 (XXIV) on contribution by the Economic Commission for Africa to the preparation of the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade and in particular to operative paragraphs 1 and 2, the secretariat revised the region's contribution to the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade in the light of the comments made during the fifteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers/twenty-fourth session of the Commission. The contribution to the preparation of the International Development Strategy was then submitted to the Chairman of the Ad hoc Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy.

Resolution 676 (XXIV): African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation

36. In accordance with resolution 676 (XXIV) on African Alternative Framework for Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP), the Executive Secretary of ECA held a joint meeting with the President of World Bank in Washington, D.C. on 10 May 1989 in which the Secretary General of the OAU, the President of the African Development Bank and other United Nations agencies such as the IMF, UNICEF and UNDP also participated. The meeting adopted a joint communique setting out areas of consensus between the organizations and future co-operation. This process of consultations and follow-up has continued with a meeting in Washington, D.C. at technical level from 27 November to 1 December 1989 between officials of the World Bank, the IMF and ECA. The Executive Secretary submitted AAF-SAP to the July meeting of the Working Group of African Governors of the IMF and the World Bank for inclusion in the memoranda to the Managing Director of the IMF and the President of the World Bank, as well as in the Joint Statement to the annual meeting. In pursuance to this, ECA was strongly represented at technical level at the meeting of the Group in Gaborone, Botswana, from 31 July to 4 August 1989. AAF-SAP was also presented to the 1989 second regular session of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations General Assembly by the Chairman of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Economic Planning and Development, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of ECA, while the permanent representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations transmitted AAF-SAP to the United Nations Secretary-General for inclusion in the agenda of the forty fourth session. Both ECOSOC and the General Assembly adopted endorsing resolutions on AAF-SAP, resolution 1989/116 in the case of ECOSOC and 44/211 in the case of the General Assembly. The Chairman of the joint meeting of the African Ministers

of Planning and Ministers of Finance submitted AAF-SAP to the Development Committee of the World Bank and the IMF, and the Group of 24.

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Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fifth session of the Commission/ sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
15-19 May 1990

LC/NAIROBI

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1989 AND BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FORTY-FOURTH SESSION IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS THAT ARE OF INTEREST TO AFRICA

0502

1. The objective of this document is to report to the meeting of the Technical Preparatory of the whole and through it, to the Conference of Ministers on (a) the action taken by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its second regular session held at Geneva in July 1989 on the resolutions adopted by the Conference of Ministers at its fifteenth meeting and addressed to the Council; (b) the decisions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the recommendations of ECOSOC concerning these resolutions; and (c) other resolutions and decisions of the Council and the General Assembly in the economic and social sectors which are of interest to Africa.

2. At its fifteenth meeting, which was also the twenty-fourth session of the Commission and fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for Economic Development and Planning, which was held at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 10 April 1989, the Conference adopted 22 resolutions, three of which were addressed to the General Assembly through ECOSOC and two directly to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. These were the proclamation of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) [resolution 656 (XXIV)], African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) [resolution 669 (XXIV)], proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991 [resolution 675 (XXIV)], African Alternative Framework for Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP) [resolution 676 (XXIV)], review of the achievements of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Economic Commission for Africa in order to strengthen them [resolution 659 (XXIV)] and measures for strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa's special programmes for least developed, landlocked and island countries in Africa [resolution 667 (XXIV)].

3. The second regular session of 1989 of the Economic and Social Council was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 5 to 28 July 1989.

4. It should be recalled that the last session of the Conference of Ministers had unanimously accepted an invitation by the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to hold its twenty-fifth session of the Commission/sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers in Tripoli. Accordingly, the offer was presented to the second session of ECOSOC and was initially discussed during the first day of the informal discussions and later at its thirty-seventh plenary meeting, on 28 July 1989, the Council took note of the offer and decided that the twenty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Africa/sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, in 1990, should be held at Tripoli in accordance with paragraph 5 of section I of General Assembly resolution 40/243.

5. During the first day of the informal consultations, discussions were held on resolutions 656 (XXIV) on the IDDA, 669 (XXIV) on IDEP and 676 (XXIV) on AAF-SAP but no progress was made during those informal discussions as the amendments made on them could not be accepted by the African members of ECOSOC; therefore more discussions were necessary. The Chairman then proposed what is called "informal informals" on each of those resolutions.

6. The "informal informals" began with the resolution on IDDA. After discussions and an exchange of views, a compromise was reached and the resolution was very slightly amended and adopted as resolution 1989/115.

7. As for AAF-SAP, a lot of bargaining and corridor discussions went on before it was brought to the "informal informals". After long discussions a compromise was reached, the resolution was slightly amended and was adopted as resolution 1989/116.

8. The resolution which was really not acceptable to most donor countries was the one on IDEP, especially the operative paragraph which appealed to the General Assembly to approve the incorporation of four core posts for the Institute into the regular budget of the United Nations. Compromise was difficult to obtain as the resolution called for funds from the regular budget. After very long discussions this operative paragraph was dropped and others agreed before a compromise acceptable to all was reached. The Council adopted the resolution when it was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications. It was adopted as resolution 1989/117 (annex I contains ECA resolutions as adopted by ECOSOC).

9. As for the resolutions on the MULPOCs and on the least developed land locked and island countries, actions taken on them are dealt with in document E/ECA/CM.15/26; the resolution on the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991 is treated in document E/ECA/CM.16/28.

10. The following are some of the other resolutions of interest to Africa adopted by ECOSOC at its regular session of 1989:

(a) Resolution 1989/78: [illegible] the fight against locust and grasshopper infestation particularly in Africa, in which the Council appealed to the international community, especially the developed countries, to make the necessary resources available to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and to co-operate with it in further developing remote-sensing techniques, training, the testing and evaluation of pesticides, the collection and dissemination of information, prevention, co-ordination and funding, and in [illegible] of strengthening national and regional early-warning systems in order to improve the ability of affected or vulnerable countries to cope with future threats;

(b) Resolution 1989/[illegible]: Countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa, in which the Council appealed urgently to the international community, particularly donor countries, while maintaining their support for the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, to continue to support the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development and the Ministerial Conference for a joint policy to combat desertification;

(c) Resolution 1989/119: Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar, in which the Council, inter alia, invited the countries concerned to co-operate with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe in accelerating the creation of transport networks leading to the Strait of Gibraltar and in harmonizing transport regulations with a view to facilitating the transport of goods and merchandise between the two areas.

11. As is the practice, all resolutions adopted by ECOSOC should also go to the General Assembly for final adoption. Consequently, the aforementioned ECA resolutions, together with other resolutions of interest to Africa which were adopted by ECOSOC, were transmitted to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

12. Among the resolutions adopted by the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly were the ECA resolutions referred to above together with those of interest to Africa also referred to above; other resolutions of interest to Africa adopted by the General Assembly are the following:

13. An important resolution adopted by the General Assembly is 44/21 on Enhancing international peace, security and international co-operation in all its aspects in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. This resolution, introduced by both the United States of America and the Soviet Union, was considered significant since it was the first time the two countries had jointly proposed a resolution of a political nature at the United Nations. By this resolution, adopted without a vote, the General Assembly encourages Member States to consult and co-operate within the framework of the United Nations, the Security Council, the General Assembly and their appropriate subsidiary organs in order to find multifaceted approaches to implement and strengthen the principles and the system of peace, security and international co-operation laid down in the Charter.

14. Together with resolution 44/169: Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade an outline contained in an annex was adopted; this outline is the basis for the elaboration of the strategy. Much work had been accomplished on the third section of the outline and many items such as external debt and population, for instance, previously rejected by developed countries, are now part of the outline. In the resolution, the General Assembly "recommends that the Ad hoc Committee adopt the outline contained in the annex to the present resolution as the basis for the elaboration of the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade".

15. In its resolution 44/183 on Special assistance to front-line States, the General Assembly strongly urged the international community to continue to provide in a timely and effective manner the financial, material and technical assistance necessary to enhance the individual and collective capacity of the front-line States and other bordering States to withstand the effects of economic measures taken by South Africa, or by the international community against South Africa, in accordance with their national and regional plans and strategies.

16. Another important resolution adopted by the General Assembly during its forty-fourth session was 44/205 entitled Towards a durable solution of external debt problems, which was adopted by a recorded vote of 139 in favour to one against with no abstention. In this resolution, the General Assembly welcomed the contributions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to the international search aimed at resolving the external debt crisis of developing countries and, in this regard, took note of Trade and Development Board resolutions 165 (S-IX) and 375 (XXXVI) on debt and development problems of developing countries; it stressed that the deterioration in the economic situation of the debtor developing countries constitutes a major obstacle to their economic growth and sustained development, which can be a threat to their economic, social and political stability; welcomed the increasing acceptance by creditor countries of the need for writing off and/or reducing the debt stock and debt-service of developing countries and also welcomed, in this regard, the contributions that the recent initiatives aimed at the reduction of the stock and debt-service of the developing countries could make, expressed deep concern that the overall indebtedness of the debtor developing countries has persisted and often increased, that their growth and development are severely limited, and their economic and social prospects continue to be a cause of a serious concern; stressed the urgent need for the broadest implementation of the recent initiatives; it emphasized that in order to ensure that the recent initiatives, in particular those for debt reduction, in conjunction with appropriate economic policies and favourable international environment, have effective and comprehensive impacts on the reactivation of economic growth and sustained

of financial packages adequate to support growth-oriented adjustment programmes, including, as appropriate, debt reduction, debt service reduction, new lending and other measures, and requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

17. By its resolution 44/206 on possible adverse effects of sea-level rise on islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to invite the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and through them, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to take account in their work of the particular situation of islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas, by undertaking further scientific studies and by seeking ways to address the problems of sea-level rise, inter alia, by providing expertise, as requested, in accordance with their specific mandates for improved management of coastal zones.

18. In its resolution 44/212 on International co-operation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries, adopted by consensus, the General Assembly requested the Committee for Development Planning to submit to the Ad hoc Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade concrete proposals for action on the eradication of poverty in developing countries. The resolution would invite governments to include the issue of eradication of poverty integrated with relevant environmental issues in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. It should be noted that delegations were not able to reach consensus on this resolution last year but succeeded in doing so this year.

19. The General Assembly adopted resolution 44/214 on Specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries by which it reaffirmed the right of access of land-locked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law and urged the international community, in particular donor countries and multilateral financial and development organizations to provide land-locked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and transit infrastructure and facilities, including alternative routes.

20. In its resolution 44/220 on the Second United Nations Conference on the least developed countries, the General Assembly emphasized the crucial importance of adequate preparation for the second United Nations Conference on the least developed countries, taking into account the priorities to be put forward by the least developed countries themselves, reiterated its request to all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerned to submit, if they have not already done so, reports containing a review of the implementation of the substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the least developed countries within their fields of competence and proposals for further action as input to the preparations for the Conference, and requested the Secretary-General to obtain additional extrabudgetary resources, in line with the past practice, to provide for travel expenses and subsistence allowances for a third representative of each least developed country to the Conference, as noted in his report.

21. The General Assembly adopted resolutions 44/221 on Co-operation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference

and 44/17 on Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity as well as resolutions on special economic assistance to African countries facing particular problems such as those on special economic assistance to Chad in its reconstruction, rehabilitation and development (44/176), on assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti (44/177) following the substantial devastation and damage caused in this country by the unprecedented torrential rains and floods in April 1988, on emergency assistance to Somalia (44/178), etc.

22. Another resolution adopted by consensus was on Large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impacts on the living marine resources of the World's Oceans and Seas (44/225). By this resolution, the General Assembly would recommend that all interested members of the international community continue to consider and, by no later than 30 June 1991, review the best available scientific data on the impacts of such fishing, and agree upon further co-operative regulation and monitoring measures, as needed.

23. Resolution 44/226 on Traffic in and disposal, control and transboundary movements of toxic and dangerous products and wastes called on the regional commissions to establish an adequate and permanent mechanism to monitor and assess the illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous products and calls upon all countries to co-operate with their respective regional commissions with the aim of preventing the illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes.

24. In resolution 44/227 on the Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 on the Environment, Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond and 44/228 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development respectively, the General Assembly noted with satisfaction the regional activities which had taken place or are being planned with a view to promoting sustainable and environmentally sound development, inter alia, the first Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development in Africa, organized by the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Environment Programme at Kampala, Uganda, in June 1989, as well as similar conferences in the other regions planned to take place in 1990. It invited governments and the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts towards promoting and achieving sustainable and environmentally sound development by integrating environmental concerns and considerations into policies and programmes in all areas; the General Assembly also reaffirmed that there is a direct interrelationship between environment and development, and recognized that a supportive international economic environment that would result in sustained economic growth and development, particularly in developing countries, is of major importance for sound management of the environment.

25. The General Assembly adopted resolution 44/229 on International co-operation in the field of the environment by which is stressed the need to provide new and additional financial resources to support developing countries in identifying, analyzing, monitoring, preventing and managing environmental problems primarily at their source, in accordance with their national development goals, objectives and plans, so as to ensure that their development priorities are not adversely affected.

26. In its resolution 44/232 on Trends in the transfer of resources to and from the developing countries and their impact on the economic growth and sustained development of those countries, the General Assembly urged the international community to adopt concrete measures in order to ensure adequate resources for the reactivation of economic growth and sustained development in

developing countries, taking into account a series of recommendations such as the promotion by developed countries of an adequate flow of resources to developing countries and the overcoming of the long-standing external indebtedness of developing countries by reducing significantly the stock of debt and debt-service which could contribute to the attainment of the objective of the resumption of vigorous growth and sustained development in indebted developing countries, etc.

27. In its resolution 41/233 entitled Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in view of the potentially serious implications of the AIDS pandemic for socio-economic development in some developing countries, to intensify his efforts, in collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, all other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and the World Health Organization/United Nations Development Programme Alliance to Combat AIDS, to mobilize the technical and other relevant resources of the United Nations system, through co-ordinated research and programmes, to deal with this aspect of the problem and urged Member States to increase their efforts in combating AIDS and to encourage, support and facilitate national efforts to prevent the further spread of AIDS.

28. Another resolution adopted by consensus was 41/236 on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction which urged, among other actions to be taken by the United Nations system, that the regional commissions play an active role in implementing the activities of the Decade, considering that natural disasters often transcend national boundaries.

29. The draft decision (41/444) on the preparations for the 1990 special session of the General Assembly on international economic co-operation prepared on the basis of informal consultations, received the approval of all delegations.

30. The General Assembly also took note on the progress report of the Secretary-General on preparatory arrangements for the second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

31. The secretariat will, where necessary, take the usual steps where it has not already done so to take into account the provisions of these resolutions in the revisions of the Medium Term Plan and in the elaboration of the biennial work programmes.

Annex I

ECA RESOLUTIONS AS ADOPTED BY THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)

1989/115. Proclamation of a second industrial development decade for Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1981/70 of 8 July 1981, in which it recommended that after appropriate evaluation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, the proclamation of a second decade be considered, in order to accelerate further the industrialization of Africa,

Noting resolution CM/Res.1187 (XLIX) of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity [1] in which it urged the Industrial Development Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to adopt an appropriate decision with a view to the proclamation of a second decade by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session,

Noting also Industrial Development Board decision IDB.5/Dec.7 of 6 July 1989, [2] in which the Board recommended that the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization request the General Assembly to proclaim, at its forty-fourth session, a second industrial development decade for Africa,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/84 of 24 May 1989 on guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields,

Noting that an independent evaluation of the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa has been completed by a team of experts, [3]

Taking note of resolution 656 (XXIV) of 7 April 1989 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, [4]

Noting that the Conference of Ministers invited the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its ninth meeting to examine the report on the evaluation of the implementation of the Decade and present its views on the modalities of launching a second decade for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session through the Economic and Social Council and the Industrial Development Board,

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[1] A/44/291, annex.

[2] E/1989/L.32, annex.

[3] CAMI.9/20/Add.1.

[4] Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 16 (E/1989/35), chap. IV.

Having heard the statement made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa on 10 July 1989, [7]

1. Recommends that the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session consider proclaiming the period 1991-2000 the second industrial development decade for Africa;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session proposals, with cost estimates, for the preparation of the programme for the second industrial development decade for Africa, taking into account resolution 2 (IX) of 31 May 1989 of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. [8]

37th plenary meeting,
28 July 1989.

1989/114 African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation

The Economic and Social Council

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/21 of 12 November 1988, in particular paragraph 55 (c) of the annex, in which the Assembly recommended that African countries increase their efforts in the search for a viable conceptual and practical framework for economic structural adjustment programmes in keeping with long-term development objectives and strategies at the national, subregional and regional levels,

Convinced of the urgent need for African economies to bring about structural transformation and sustained growth and development,

1. Takes note with interest of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation, [9] adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa in resolution 675 (XXIV) of 7 April 1989 [8] and the joint statement on Africa's long-term development adopted by the meeting of agencies concerned with Africa's economic and social progress held at Washington, D.C., on 10 May 1989;

2. Requests the General Assembly to consider taking action on the Framework, as appropriate;

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[7] See E/1989/SR.33.

[8] CM/1479/Rev.1.

[9] A/44/315, annex.

[8] See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 16 (E/1989/35), chap. IV.

3. Calls upon the international community, especially developed countries and multilateral institutions, to consider requests to provide support to the country programmes prepared by African countries.

37th plenary meeting,
28 July 1989.

1989/117. African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1985/62 of 26 July 1985,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, the services it has rendered to African Governments and the increasing and continued interest of member States in its activities,

Considering the critical financial crisis facing the Institute, the decline in the contributions of member States and the decision of the United Nations Development Programme to withdraw its assistance for training at the Institute and funding of its core staff at the end of 1989,

Noting with satisfaction that the Governing Council of the Institute has appointed a sub-committee to review the structure and management of the Institute and make recommendations on its restructuring,

Expressing appreciation for the support that the United Nations Development Programme has so far given the Institute,

1. Urges the Governing Council of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning to expedite the work of restructuring and rationalizing the activities and means of the Institute in order to establish, as early as possible, a renewed and financially viable Institute for the benefit of African development;

2. Invites the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to reconsider, in the light of the progress made in the restructuring process, the decision to cease the funding of the Institute after December 1989 and to provide support as appropriate;

3. Earnestly urges African Governments to pay their contributions in a regular and timely manner and make plans to pay gradually their accumulated arrears.

37th plenary meeting,
28 July 1989.

Annex II

DECISION TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON AFRICAN ALTERNATIVE FRAMEWORK TO STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMMES FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND TRANSFORMATION (AAF SAP)

The General Assembly,

Decides that the activities in support of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 [9] should be continued pending the final review and appraisal of the Programme of Action to be undertaken by the Assembly at its forty-sixth session in accordance with its resolution 43/27 of 18 November 1988.

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9 Resolution S/13-2, annex.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fifth session of the Commission/ sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
15 - 19 May 1990

PROPOSALS FOR UPDATING THE 1990-1991 PROGRAMME BUDGET

90-0175

INTRODUCTION

1. In reviewing the programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991 at the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, the Conference of Ministers made a number of suggestions and proposals for strengthening the programme. The Conference also, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to incorporate the Commission's proposals in his programme budget submission to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC), called upon the African members of CPC to support the proposals at its twenty-ninth session, and urged that Committee to consider the proposals favourably.[1]

2. The purpose of this paper is two-fold. The first purpose is to report on the follow-up on the recommendations and decisions of the Conference on the programme of work and priorities. The second purpose is to seek the endorsement of the Conference for new additional activities which can be carried out as a result of new resources from extrabudgetary sources which became available after the programme budget had been approved. The proposals for these additional activities are contained in annex II to this document.

3. With regard to the suggestions and proposals made by the Conference of Ministers for strengthening the programme when it considered it at its fifteenth meeting, the secretariat took steps immediately after the meeting to translate them into the standard list of outputs of the United Nations which, together with corrections of inconsistencies and omissions in the original proposals, were incorporated in document E/AC.51/1989/CRP.5 and submitted to CPC for its consideration together with the original proposals. Document E/AC.51/1989/CRP.5 is reproduced herewith as annex I to this paper.

4. As it is, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Economic and Social Council, the relevant committees of the General Assembly, and the General Assembly itself, had no difficulty in either endorsing or approving the programme as revised with the additional proposals based on the comments and suggestions of the Ministers. The African members of CPC which first considered the programme, as well as the totality of the membership of that Committee, lent their fullest support to the programme as requested by the Ministers. The Committee in particular stressed the importance of the Commission's programmes for

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[1] E/ECA/CM.15/33.

African development and noted the significant improvement in programme formulation at ECA. However, many delegations expressed concern at the low rate of growth of 0.3 per cent in the resources allocated to the Commission and some expressed the view that a reduction in the high vacancy rate in the Commission could compensate for the lack of resources. Accordingly, the Committee stressed the need for the Secretary-General to provide ECA with sufficient resources commensurate with the priority assigned by the General Assembly to the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development and recommended that the Secretary-General should continue his efforts to eliminate the high vacancy rate in ECA which caused a negative impact on the programmes of ECA.[2]

5. Questions were raised regarding the determination of priorities and the Committee "emphasized the need to place greater emphasis on a number of programmes, namely food and agriculture, development issues and policies, environment, industrial development, population, social development and humanitarian affairs and transport, communications and tourism in Africa."[3]

6. Finally, CPC took note of the secretariat's efforts to maintain the support posts for PADIS and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP).[4]

7. For its part, the General Assembly in approving the proposed programme budget for the Commission, at its forty-fourth session, endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in respect of the programme and "requests the Secretary-General to review the adequacy of resources for the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, and to intensify his efforts to reduce the currently high vacancy rate in the Economic Commission for Africa, including the preparation of a specific plan to that end, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session".[5]

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[2] See report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, A/44/16, paras. 101 and 103.

[3] Report of CPC, para. 189.

[4] Report of CPC, para. 182.

[5] A.C.5/44/L.25, Section VIII, para. 1.

8. The General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General "to review the translation and interpretation services for all official languages in the Economic Commission for Africa, including the question of the retention of trained personnel and the possibility of restoration of the Training Centre, and to report on the results of this review to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session." The Assembly further decided that the post proposed by the Secretary-General for Chief of Automation Services in the Commission should be an established post in the programme budget for 1990-1991 and that the post of evaluation officer should be retained on a non-recurrent basis, subject to renewal".[7]

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[6] Ibid., para. 2.

[7] Ibid., para. 4.

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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION
Twenty-ninth session
8 May-2 June 1989
Agenda item 4 (a)

ANNEX I

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991

Section 13. Economic Commission for Africa

Note by the Secretariat

The following programmes of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 in respect of section 13, ECA, are revised as indicated below. These revisions take into consideration comments on the proposed programme of work of ECA by the ECA Conference of Ministers.

B. Programmes of activity

3. Development issues and policies in Africa

4. Environment in Africa

8. Natural resources in Africa

11. Public administration and finance in Africa

12. Science and technology in Africa

13. Social development and humanitarian affairs in Africa

Programme 3: Development issues and policies in Africa

Subprogramme 4. Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation

Programme element 4.2

(a) Lusaka-based MULPOC

Output (i) Add (f) evaluation of progress in economic integration in Eastern and Southern Africa 10 years after the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA)

(c) Niamey-based MULPOC

Output (i) (b) Delete "in the subregion" and replace with "likely to be traded within the subregion".

(c) After "industrial projects" insert "in the fields of fertilizers, pesticides, agricultural equipment and machinery".

(d) After "West Africa" insert "in 1990 and proposed for 1991-1993".

(e) In the beginning insert "proposals for improving".

(g) After "West Africa" add "in the fields of metallurgicals, chemicals and petrochemicals".

Output (ii) After "IGOs" insert "with a view to strengthening the co-ordination and harmonization of their activities in the field of agriculture, industrial development, trade and finance, energy, transport, information and training". At the end add "the Follow-up Evaluation Committee of the Association of West Africa IGOs (third quarter 1990)."

Output (iii) Delete the entire output and replace with "Report to the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC on the formulation of a master plan for afforestation in West Africa, including the creation of a "green belt" bordering the Sahara, on the one hand, and afforestation programmes in coastal countries, on the other (third quarter, 1991)".

Add the following outputs:

(v) Reports of the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC on: (a) a study on the impact of the structural adjustment programmes on employment and other aspects of the socio-economic environment in West Africa (first quarter, 1991); (b)

the creation of industrial production areas in West Africa (first quarter, 1991); and the political and socio-cultural factors in the economic integration process in West Africa (first quarter, 1991);

Add the following operational activity:

"Seminar on the promotion of medium- and small-scale enterprises in West Africa in collaboration with national and subregional financing institutions".

Subprogramme 5. Education and training for development

Programme element 5.1. Identification of formal and non-formal education policies, programmes and practices for socio-economic development

Output (i) under technical publications. Add (i) 'Curriculum development and the process of confidence-building in Africa (second quarter, 1990)".

Output (ii) delete (ii) "Survey of non-formal education programmes for development (fourth quarter, 1990)"

Subprogramme 6. Manpower and employment planning and policies

Programme element 6.1. Policies and programmes for the enhancement of employment and productivity

Operational activities

After 'planners and economists on Gender Achievement planning and productivity' add 'Training workshop for employment generation in the informal sector and small-scale industries".

Programme element 6.3. Institution-building for co-operation, co-ordination and harmonization of human resources policies and programmes

Output (i) (3) After 'Training Workshop on Gender revitalizing African institutions of higher learning for long-term development (first quarter, 1991)" and replace with "the role of institutions of higher learning in the promotion of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP)".

Programme 4. Environment in Africa

Subprogramme 1. Development of environmental capabilities, including conservation of resources and pollution control

Programme element 1.1. Development of environmental capabilities, including the development of manpower capabilities

Add Output (iii) Technical publications: Two issues of ECA Environment Newsletter (1990, 1991)".

Operational activities: In the beginning delete Technical support for establishment of and insert Substantive and technical support for .

Programme element 1.2. Environmental assessment and management relating to the impact of the development and utilization of natural resources and pollution control

Delete Output (iii).

Old output (iv) becomes new output (iii)

New output (iv) reads as follows: Substantive servicing of the sixth meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee of Human Settlements and Environment (first quarter, 1991)".

Delete programme element 1.3. Promotion of environmental awareness.

Programme 8: Natural resources in Africa

Subprogramme 1. Mineral resources

Programme element 1.2. Inventory of African mineral resources, research and information on development, financing and utilization of mineral resources in Africa

Delete output (b) and insert (b) "Techno-economic study on the development of small-scale mining in the economic community of the countries of the Great Lakes (CEPGL), (first quarter, 1991)".

Programme 9: Energy and development in Africa

Subprogramme 1. Integration of energy policies into overall socio-economic development and economic growth policies

Programme element 1.3. Development of new and renewable energy resources in African countries

Output (i) Replace 'fourth quarter 1990' with 'first quarter, 1991'.

Output (ii) should read "Report to the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy on the development of such sources of energy in Africa (first quarter, 1991)".

Programme 11: Public administration and finance in Africa

Subprogramme 2. Development of budgetary and taxation systems

Programme element 2.1. Improvement in budgetary and financial management in government

Output: Technical publications: (a) delete existing text and replace with "Restructuring of public expenditure for the successful implementation of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Development (AAF-SAP) (third quarter, 1990)".

Programme 12: Science and technology in Africa

Subprogramme 2. Development of manpower for science and technology

Programme element 2.1. Mobilization and effective utilization of local institutions and capabilities

Operational activities: (a) should read "training seminar for government officials on management of science and technology with special emphasis on new and emerging technologies and their application to development (second quarter, 1990)".

Programme 13. Social development and humanitarian affairs in Africa

Subprogramme 3. Integration of women in development

Programme element 3.1. Participation of women in development

Output (ii) (d) replace existing text with "the situation of African women in agriculture and industrial transformation in the context of Af[illegible]n Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Transformation and Recovery (AAF-SAP) (second quarter, 1991)".

ANNEX II

ACTIVITIES BEING PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF ADDITIONAL EXTRABUDGETARY RESOURCES THAT BECAME AVAILABLE AFTER THE APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAMME BUDGET

Programme: Transport, communications and tourism in Africa

Subprogramme 5: Communications

Programme element 5.1: Development of telecommunication services in Africa

Proposed additions:

Add new output (viii): Substantive services to the meetings on Economic aspects of Expansion and Modernization of Telecommunication Networks for English- and French-speaking countries (one in the third quarter 1990, one fourth quarter 1990) (2 x 2).

Operational activities: Two advisory service missions to member States and local enterprises in the field of telecommunications development (one second quarter, 1990; one fourth quarter 1990).

Reasons for proposed additions: These additional substantive activities are now being proposed since during the preparation of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 the secretariat received no commitment from the Governments concerned as to whether they would host the meetings of the pilot/all-telecommunications projects. The duration of the project has now been extended from 31 January to 31 December 1990. The substantive and operational activities proposed could therefore be delivered during 1990.

Programme: Industrial development in Africa

Subprogramme 10: Policy, planning, training and institutional infrastructure

Programme element 10.1: Industrial policies and planning

Add new output (x): Substantive services to the seventh session of the meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa (fourth quarter 1990, Tripoli (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)).

Renumber existing outputs (x) and (xi) as outputs (xi) and (xii) respectively.

Reasons for the proposed additions:

These outputs are being proposed for inclusion in the programme budget as a result of additional resources provided by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session for activities relating to the preparations for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

Programme: Development Issues and Policies in Africa

Subprogramme 4: Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation

Delete outputs 4.2 (e) (i) (2), (e) and (h) and add new outputs as follows renumbering the outputs as appropriate:

(i) Report to the Council of Ministers on agricultural pricing and marketing of foodstuffs within the subregion (first quarter, 1990);

(ii) Report to the Council of Ministers on the possibility of establishing a mechanism to collect data on raw materials, market (first quarter, 1991);

(iii) Report to the Council of Ministers on an evaluation of agro-industries existing in the subregion and the possibility for subregional co-operation (first quarter, 1991);

(iv) Report to the Council of Ministers on possible trends for co-operative arrangements among higher educational institutions in the subregion (first quarter, 1991).

Reasons for the proposals:

The outputs proposed for deletions were programmed in 1987-1988 and have already been delivered during the 1988-1989 programme budget period. The resources allocated to them in the 1990-1991 programme budget will now be used to prepare the new outputs proposed.

Programme: Natural resources in Africa

Subprogramme 3: Cartography and remote sensing

Programme element 3.2: Development of a cartographic data base, and remote sensing and its application in Africa

Add new output (i) as follows: Reports to the Governing Councils of two ECA-sponsored regional centres for remote sensing on assessment of the performance and impact of personnel trained at the centres in the implementation of their national programmes and projects (fourth 1991).

Renumber existing output as output (i) and add new (d) and (e) as follows:

(d) Cartographic bulletin (fourth quarter 1990, fourth quarter 1991);

(e) Atlas of the cartographic inventory for Africa (second quarter 1991).

Reasons for the additions

The approved work programme and budget (1990-1991) were prepared on the basis of the two existing professional posts in the subprogramme. An additional post has since become available from extrabudgetary sources.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fifth session of the Commission/ sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
15 - 19 May 1990

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE DRAFT MEDIUM-TERM PLAN, 1992-1997

90-508

INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 671(XXIV) of 7 April 1989 (see annex I to the present report), the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, the Commission, inter alia, decided to establish an open-ended Ad hoc committee and empowered it to examine the draft Medium-term Plan for the period 1992-1997 to be submitted by the Executive Secretary and make appropriate recommendations to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on behalf of the Commission.

2. The Ad hoc Committee carried out its work at a meeting held at the Commission's headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from to 13 October 1989. The meeting was originally scheduled to take place from to 11 October 1989. However since Wednesday, 11 October 1989 was declared a public holiday, the Committee decided not to meet on that day and completed its work on Friday, 13 October 1989.

A. Attendance and organization of work

3. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, the Congo, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zaire.

4. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

5. Observers were also present from the following intergovernmental organizations: African Regional Centre for Solar Energy (ARCSE), African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS), Pan-African News Agency (PANA), and International Air Transport Association (IATA).

6. The Committee decided to retain the current bureau of the Commission as its own bureau as follows: Chairman - Ethiopia, First Vice-Chairman - the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and Second Vice-Chairman - the Congo. Since Benin,

the current Rapporteur of the Commission was not represented at the meeting, the Committee unanimously elected Malawi as Rapporteur.

B. Agenda

7. On 3 October 1989, the Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
4. Consideration of the Draft Medium-term Plan 1992-1997
   (a) Overall orientation and objectives of the programme and the subprogramme narratives
   (b) Subprogramme structure and the number of subprogrammes
   (c) Designation of priorities among subprogrammes
5. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting

C. Account of proceedings

Opening of the meeting (agenda item 1)

8. The meeting was opened with an address by the Executive Secretary of the Commission in which he recalled the mandate of the Committee as laid down in Commission resolution 671(XXIV). He underlined the importance of the Medium-term Plan as the main policy directive of the United Nations, the ECA component of which constituted the framework within which the Commission would address the socio-economic and technological development problems likely to confront member States during the period of the Plan. In that regard the Plan must reflect, to the fullest extent possible, the needs and aspirations of member States. That, he said, made the role of the Committee particularly important.

9. The Executive Secretary outlined the salient points of the proposed new structure of the Plan and dwelt in particular on the proposed subprogramme structure of the programme. Regional Co-operation for Development in Africa. He had no doubt that the Committee would give the proposed structure the attention it deserved, bearing in mind that the overall objective was for a simpler, more transparent and more compact Plan which involved a better focused, clearer and more consolidated subprogramme structure.

10. He dwelt at length on the issues derived from recent mandates that the proposed programme addressed. The Committee he said was expected to examine closely the objectives, the problems addressed and the strategies to be followed overall and in each subprogramme area with a view to ensuring that the programme reflected fully the priorities of member States.

11. With regard to the question of priority designation among subprogrammes, the Executive Secretary drew the attention of the Committee to the broad areas which were indicated in the Plan document to guide the Committee in designating priorities. He however, emphasized that the decision on priorities was a prerogative that belonged to the Committee only.

Overall orientation and objectives of the programme and subprogramme narratives (Agenda item 4 (b))

12. A representative of the secretariat presented document E/ECA/AD HOC MTP/ which contained the draft Medium-term Plan, 1992-1997. In doing so he outlined in detail the basis and substance of the general thrust of the plan both at the programme and subprogramme levels. He also required the Committee that its basic task under this agenda item was critically to review the overall orientation, objectives, problems addressed and strategies proposed in the light of what they perceived as member States' priorities, and to make appropriate recommendations with a view to improving the plan.

Part I. Overall orientation and objectives of the programme

13. Several representatives stated that the part on overall orientation and objectives of the programme was properly formulated and that the philosophy and orientation of the programme outlined therein reflected

accurately and fully the aspirations and concerns of the African governments as expressed in such policy documents as the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos as well as those cited in document E/ECA/AU HOC. MTP/1 in paragraph 12. One representative underscored the importance of collective self-reliance and drew the attention of the Committee to paragraph 21 of CIPPSR concerning the Declaration on the Economic Situation in Africa where the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity recognized that the collective efforts of the member states was an important weapon for tackling the prevailing economic crisis and the imperative for the international community to support those efforts. He noted that while there were certain constraints and the sectoral areas of concern there was a need to examine how these concerns would be operationalized.

14. Another representative pointed out, also as was made in paragraph 12 document E/ECA/AU HOC.MTP/1, reference was made to the Khartoum Declaration and emphasis had been placed on the plan on the social dimension of development particularly with respect to the vulnerable groups, the draft plan had not specifically treated the issue of refugees. He stated that the problem of refugees and displaced persons should feature prominently in the next medium-term plan. He further noted that in paragraph 33, document E/ECA/AU HOC.MTP/1 in which the specialized agencies and other units of the United Nations system with which ECA had joint programming and formal working arrangements are referred to, no mention is made of UNHCR and urged ECA to forge such arrangements with that organization on account of the critical importance of the issue of refugees in Africa.

15. Referring to paragraph 15, document E/ECA/AU HOC.MTP/1 where reference is made to the need for the international community to respect its part of the compact entered into in UN-PAAERD in order to enable the full implementation of the present programme, one representative recounted Africa's experiences with the international community and wondered, in the light of the mid-term review of UN-PAAERD as to what measures were being considered to change the attitude of that community as Africa undoubtedly records its continued existence.

16. One representative pointed out the need to put greater emphasis on macro-economic research and analysis, particularly in the light of the major policy issues that were envisaged to face Africa in the 90s.

17. One representative regretted the economic resource considerations in the draft plan which they felt precluded the required stock-taking and

assessment of the capacity of the secretariat and that of the member States to implement the various subprogrammes during the medium-term assessment which would cover not only the personnel and other resource requirements, as well as the modalities of funding would be essential for drawing conclusions on plan implementation. Information on the plan's financing was also essential for the establishment of priorities. As it was, the plan was only a broad policy framework without immediate financial implications.

18. In reacting to these observations, the representative of the secretariat explained that the plan was, as it were, a declaration of intent. As such it was not costed. In its preparation, however, a lot of thought was given to the resources expected to be available to the United Nations during the plan period. Hence, there was a close relationship between the plan and the biennial programme budgets through which the proposed plan would be implemented. The whole work was fully costed activity by activity in terms of post and other objects of expenditure. Several representatives had expressed uncertainty as to whether the deliberations of the ad hoc group would have any impact on the final form and structure of the medium-term plan since these appeared to have already been negotiated at the central level. In that regard, the representative of the secretariat pointed out that the formulation of the Medium-Term Plan was a [illegible] exercise. The views expressed by the Committee on the form and structure of the overall Plan would certainly be brought to the attention of the central reviewing bodies. The views and recommendations of the Committee in respect of the ECE component of the Plan would, in particular, not only be used to redraft the present plan but they would also be transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations together with the redrafted version of the plan.

19. The Committee considered part I of document E/ECE/AD.DOC.MTP/3 subject to the discussion on it.

Part II. Subprogramme narratives

20. The Committee decided to consider the narratives subprogramme by subprogramme and, in some cases, as indicated below, in clusters of subprogrammes. A general comment which pertained to all the narratives was that the language used to describe the capabilities and efforts of member States should be more realistic; it was felt that the text recast to reflect the actual realities.

Sub-programme 1. Executive direction and management

21. Several representatives felt that the objectives of this sub-programme were very broad and vague and therefore worried how its implementation could be concretely evaluated. Others observed that the provision of intellectual leadership was an acceptable objective and stated that a distinction needed to be drawn between the role of the ECA secretariat and those of member States. The operational content of those objectives also needed to be clearly and coherently spelled out.

22. One representative wondered how the secretariat intended to cope with the problems addressed in an effective manner in the light of the observations in paragraph 89 document E/ECA/AD.ECC.MTP/2 that the crucial support services areas such as executive direction and management, would be expanded and made more effective.

23. Another representative stressed the need for the Commission to enlarge substantially its research capabilities in order for it to be better able to address the socio-economic problems of the region. He hoped that the revised ECA might well work out the other regional commissions in this area.

24. Several participants spoke on paragraph 89 document E/ECA/AD.ECC.MTP/2 which concerns the strategy for the period 1982-1987. One representative pointed out that item (c) should be made more explicit to show how the secretariat itself would participate in the United Nations system global decision-making processes. A number of representatives stressed the importance of items (f) and (g). There had to be harmonization in all the activities of the United Nations system agencies and organizations and all others operating in Africa. The relationship between ECA and OAU needed also to be re-examined and strengthened. One representative indicated that item (i) was not internal direction of the institution and specific ideas needed to be articulated for the reviewing and evaluating of its management and operations. Item (o) of the paragraph on the provision of public information was singled out as a vital component of the strategy. It was felt that member States could only request ECA services if they were fully informed of ECA's activities and capabilities. Information also helped in clarifying issues both at the technical and political levels.

25. One representative pointed out that the elements of the strategy only dealt with contacts, consultation and mobilization of resources with

little attention given to internal direction and management particularly within the framework of the major reforms taking place in the framework of the recommendations of the Group of High Level Experts to review the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations. Aspects of the reform exercise should be clearly spelled out in the strategy of the subprogramme. He emphasized that General Assembly resolution 41/213 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations should be cited as a legislative authority in this subprogramme.

26. One representative proposed that the various sub-items in paragraph 40 document E/ECA/AD HOC./TP/7 could be usefully grouped under three headings, namely (a) Public relations and awareness; (b) Resource mobilization and utilization, and (c) Research and advisory services. However, after further discussion, the Committee decided that the proposed groups would not cover all the elements of the strategy and therefore, decided to retain the elements as proposed by the secretariat.

27. The Deputy Executive Secretary assured the representatives that their comments and observations were well noted. He explained that the subprogramme was the responsibility of the Office of the Executive Secretary which included the Executive Secretary himself, the Deputy Executive Secretary the office of the Secretary to the Commission and the Information service Unit. Some of the concerns expressed by representatives with respect in particular to research and training, were treated under other subprogrammes.

28. The Committee endorsed this subprogramme subject to the observations made.

Subprogramme 2: Agricultural development policy planning and programming

Subprogramme 3: Development of sustainable agricultural production systems

Subprogramme 4: Development of agricultural institutions and infrastructures

Subprogramme 5: Rural structural transformation and development

Subprogramme 6: Water and living marine resources

29. The Committee decided to review these five subprogrammes together since they all related to the field of food and agriculture.

30. A representative of the secretariat explained that these subprogrammes were being proposed because of the importance of food and agriculture in Africa's economic recovery and transformation and the priority that member States accorded to food and agriculture. The proposed subprogramme structure would facilitate consultations and the harmonization of activities especially with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and would also allow for a more focussed approach to the issues of food and agriculture.

31. Many representatives found the proposed structure ideal. Some participants, however, indicated that the rationale behind the subprogramme structure should be properly spelled out in the plan document.

32. One representative referred to paragraph 42 document E/ECA/AD HOC.MTP/3 and suggested that there were more policy frameworks other than AAF-SAP, within which governments had to continue to implement macro-economic policy measures. Those policy frameworks should also be mentioned.

33. Several representatives underscored the importance of food storage and food security as well as early warning systems as problems that should be addressed. The problems of drought and in that regard, the need to put more emphasis on irrigation were also highlighted. So was the need to strike a balance between the production of export and food crops.

34. Some delegates drew the attention of the Committee to the problem of locusts and urged that that problem should also be fully addressed.

35. One representative suggested that the first sentence of paragraph 42 document E/ECA/AD HOC.MTP/3 should be reviewed to reflect the facts. He explained that the collapse of African agriculture could not be attributed to African countries. The fact is that African agriculture was adversely affected by exogenous factors such as natural calamities and a hostile external environment over which African countries had no control. He further said that such assertions as those in paragraph 52 in the above document, E/ECA/AD HOC.MTP/3 needed also to be toned down as member States were not incapable of applying appropriate policies.

36. Commenting on the strategies proposed, a representative stated that the secretariat should be more practical and operational and should not concentrate overly on studies. Paragraph 69 of the document, therefore, should be revised accordingly.

37. Some representatives observed that not much attention was given to co-operation and global co-ordination. A question was raised as to whether there was co-ordination between ECA and the International Livestock Centre for Africa (ILCA).

38. The representative of the secretariat thanked the representatives for their comments and pointed out that the issues of food storage and security were included under subprogramme 2 and an Early Warning System had been set up with FAO. He explained that the concern with co-ordination was indeed the justification for the ECA/FAO Joint Agriculture Division. He stated that the problem of paragraph 52 the document E/ECA/AD HOC.MTP/5 was essentially a translation one as the words "incapacity" and "inability" did not mean the same thing. However the text would be reviewed. He finally assured the participants that all their comments and observations would be taken into account in revising the document.

39. The Committee decided to endorse these subprogrammes subject to its own observations on them.

Subprogramme 7. Socio-economic analysis, Planning and projections

Subprogramme 8. Least developed, landlocked and island African countries

40. The Committee considered these subprogrammes together.

41. Representatives pointed out that the objectives of subprogrammes 7 and 8 were not very clear. In subprogramme 8 there was need to refer to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries scheduled to take place in 1990 and the follow-up requirements of that Conference.

42. Some participants also suggested that the problems addressed in paragraph 82 of the document should be reviewed with a view to making them more specific. The language of the last sentence of the paragraph concerning the capacity of member States to develop and use the required techniques was in particular inappropriate.

43. One representative referred to paragraph 89 of the document and pointed out that semi-landlocked countries also had the same problems as

those enumerated for the least developed, landlocked and island African countries. Accordingly, attention should also be given to that group of countries.

84. Another representative pointed out that the problem of the external environment had not received adequate attention and the objective should accordingly be geared to sensitizing that environment.

85. With regard to the proposed strategies of the subprogrammes, one representative stated that training should not be considered as the only major means of resolving the problems which the subprogrammes addressed.

86. A representative of the secretariat explained that training would not be the only focus. He responded to the other questions raised and assured the representatives that the secretariat would take note of all the other concerns expressed by member states in revising the draft plan.

87. The Committee endorsed the subprogrammes subject to the observations made.

Subprogramme 5. Economic co-operation and integration in Africa

88. Addressing the objectives of the subprogramme, several representatives explained that as the machinery for regional economic co-operation and integration already existed, paragraph 93 of the document should be revised to put emphasis on the strengthening of that machinery and not on the establishment of new ones. Other representatives stated that the objectives should also reflect the need to take stock of integration efforts achieved thus far (including such organs as clearing houses etc.) with a view to accelerating African economic integration. That was an imperative otherwise the African economies would be continually marginalized.

89. Several representatives disagreed with the analysis in paragraph 96 of the document namely, that the main difficulty facing African economic integration was the lack of political will on the part of member States. The substantial progress already made in the field of economic co-operation and integration was a clear demonstration that there was political will. It was stated that the difficulties of subregional economic integration could be attributed to other factors such as the youthfulness and weak structure of African economies.

50. One representative stated that while credit should be given for achievements thus far attained, member States should be ready to criticize themselves. He explained that his own country would not wish to be criticized for lacking the political will to share but only have some genuine obstacles.

51. Another representative stated that the strategy should be re-examined particularly with regard to the integration of markets as against the integration of production.

52. Some representatives urged the secretariat to work closely with OAU in this area. It should, in particular, involve OAU with its technical machinery in those sectors so that the process of economic integration could be greatly improved.

53. Responding to the observations and proposals of the representatives, a representative of the secretariat expressed each of the issues raised and assured the participants that the secretariat had taken due note of their observations and that the draft plan would be revised accordingly.

54. The Committee then considered subprogrammes and took the views expressed.

Subprogramme 10: Human resources planning, development and utilization

Subprogramme 11: Social development in Africa

Subprogramme 22: Public administration and fiscal affairs in Africa

55. During the review of these subprogrammes which were considered together, one representative observed that the objective stated in paragraph 10.2 (a) of the draft plan document, should be revised to read "to assist member States in formulating, managing and evaluating ...", instead of "designing".

56. One representative observed that the first sentence of paragraph 10.3 was not necessarily true. Emphasis should be laid more on the rational utilization of manpower. Another problem not dealt with adequately in the paragraph should include the "brain drain", the causes of which

60. One representative stated that ECA should play a more active role on issues concerning refugees because of its role as a multidisciplinary regional organ and also because member States had considerable faith in the organization.

61. Concluding the discussions on these subprogrammes, a representative of the secretariat re-assured the representatives that the subprogrammes would be recast to incorporate the concerns of member states.

62. The Committee endorsed these subprogrammes subject to the discussion.

Subprogramme 14. Development information system in Africa

63. One representative observed that the presentation of the subprogramme gave the impression that the subprogramme was only just being established. There was need to refer to the activities already carried out in the previous medium-term plan period. He stated that the financial difficulties confronting member states should be among the problems to be addressed.

64. Another representative said that the activities described in paragrapn 127(f) should reflect the reality mentioned under paragraph 126 of the document. Emphasis should be put on the training of personnel and their rational utilization.

65. The Committee endorsed the subprogramme subject to these views.

Subprogramme 15. Environment in Africa

Subprogramme 18. Land mineral resources, non-living marine resources and legal aspects of marine affairs

Subprogramme 19. Water resources

Subprogramme 20. Energy and development in Africa

Subprogramm 23. Science and technology in Africa

66. These subprogrammes were reviewed together. Several representatives underlined the importance of the issues addressed in all the

subprogrammes. However, with regard to subprogramme 13 on the environment, it was pointed out that some major regionally agreed policy decisions had been taken in the recent past which were not adequately reflected in the subprogramme narrative. Mention was made in that connection to the memorandum of the Cairo meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of the Environment and the Kampala Programme of Action adopted by the Regional Conference on the Environment and Sustainable Development held in Kampala, Uganda in June 1989.

67. A number of representatives stressed the need for the Commission to pay particular attention during the plan period to the issues of toxic waste dumping. African countries had not yet acceded to the Basle convention on toxic waste mainly because they had not themselves harmonized their positions on toxic waste dumping. That was an area in which ECA, in collaboration with OAU, should assist African countries to formulate a common position on the issue of toxic waste. It was suggested that paragraph 131 of the document should be reviewed in that light.

68. Some representatives felt that the subprogramme should pay a much greater attention to environmental education particularly at the grassroot level. ECA, they believed, should devote more effort to the promotion of such education at all levels through especially the development of curricula for both primary and higher education as well as for mass education in rural areas. It was also suggested that in the proposed strategies, ECA should focus more on the alternative sources of building materials, energy and income.

69. It was suggested that paragraph 129(c) of the draft plan document should be redrafted to read "sustain environmental protection and conservation measures through polution control activities, particularly in respect of transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and potentially toxic materials".

70. One representative called for more strategies for combating natural calamities. The impact of existing industry on the environment was also believed to deserve more attention.

71. On subprogramme 10, land mineral resources, non-living marine resources and legal aspects of marine affairs, it was pointed out that the strategy should include measures to promote the local processing of mineral resources. One representative referred to paragraph 181 of the plan document where strategies relating to the mineral resources

development centres are treated and stressed that those centres should be provided with adequate resources. Another representative emphasized that the strategy in respect of sea-bed mining, needed to be more clearly spelled out particularly in relation to the Convention on the Law of the Sea.

72. With regard to the subprogramme on water resources, subprogramme 15, one representative pointed out the lack of regional arrangements for the development of river and lake basins as a basic problem to be addressed and called on the ECA to assist member States formulate appropriate policies for the development of such basins, particularly in the light of the recommendations of the Interregional Conference on River and Lake Basin held in November 1988. That, he said, should be a major objective of the subprogramme which should be stated in paragraph 185 of the document. He also proposed that the strategy outlined in paragraph 190 of the document should also include assistance by ECA to regional research centres such as the Centre for Hydrometeology in Kampala, Uganda. Another representative stressed that particular emphasis should be given to irrigation.

73. Some representatives underlined the close relationship between the environment and energy and stressed the crucial need for environmentally sound, cheaper alternative sources of energy.

74. A representative of the secretariat provided explanation on the issues raised and assured the representatives that their observations would be reflected in the redrafted version of the plan.

75. The Committee endorsed these subprogrammes subject to the views expressed.

Subprogramme 14: Human Settlements in Africa

Subprogramme 15: Industrial development in Africa

76. The two subprogrammes were reviewed together. Concerning human settlements in Africa, one representative observed that emphasis should be put both on shelter and employment activities. Human settlements should not be considered as homogenous. The problems to be addressed should acknowledge geographical and regional differences. The judicious use of

materials especially traditional building materials was also another problem to be addressed. The possibility of creating subregional research centres on human settlement should also be considered.

77. One representative referred to paragraph 138 of the document and proposed that the concept of design should be included. Another representative referring to paragraph 135 and 136 (d) of the document said that African economies were rural-based and it was the rural economy which contributed more to GDP. The question was therefore not only the integration of the rural sector but also that it should share the benefits of the national wealth. He pointed out, also, that paragraph 138 was a repetition of paragraph 137 of the same document. He proposed that the language of paragraph 140 needed to be toned down.

78. Another representative requested the secretariat to look in the possibility of sensitizing the population on their cultural reliefs which hindered progress in some parts of Africa.

79. With regard to subprogramme 15. Industry in Africa, one representative proposed that emphasis should be given to handicraft industries and the title of the subprogramme should be changed to Development of Industry and Handicraft in Africa.

80. Another representative stated that a new subprogramme dealing with small- and medium-scale industries should be introduced and stated that the development of small- and medium-scale industries should become a focal point in industrial policies of African countries.

81. Responding to the comments, a representative of the secretariat said that the proposals were noted and appropriate amendments would be reflected in the revised document. He agreed that the wealth of States derived mainly from the rural areas and that there was urgent need to reduce rural-urban imbalances. With regard paragraph 140 of the document, the idea was to show that there had been a rural exodus which caused a decline in productivity and hence a decline in food production. He informed the Committee that negotiations were under way with UNDP concerning a major regional project on building materials. He said that proposals for incorporating handicraft in the title of subprogramme 15 and the creation of a new subprogramme dealing with small and medium industry would be given due consideration. So would the idea of establishing subregional research centres on human settlements. He informed the meeting about the co-operation between ECA secretariat and India on small- and medium-scale industries.

82. The Committee endorsed these subprogrammes subject to the views expressed.

Subprogramme 16. Trade development and co-operation

Subprogramme 17. Monetary and financial policies and strategies

Subprogramme 25. Transnational corporations in Africa

83. Many representatives stressed the importance of trade development and co-operation and called for fundamental changes in production structures. Existing structures did not allow for the rapid expansion of trade between African countries since most countries produced the same commodities. Attention should be given to taste and preferences which were basic factors in the development of trade between developed countries. Accordingly, the harmonization of production among sub-regional economic groupings, as well as, the need for inter-subregional trade and the role of the informal sector were pointed out as issues that should feature prominently in the draft plan. One representative expressed the need for Africa to establish stock exchange markets for commodities.

84. It was proposed that paragraph 161 of the document should be rewritten to emphasize ECA's role as catalytic rather than the provision of intellectual leadership. Paragraph 163 of the document, was also to be revised because first there were real factors other than the lack of commitment which prevented the institutions from being fully operational and secondly, the paragraph presented an unnecessarily gloomy impression. It was also suggested that paragraph 164 of the document, should provide further clarification on the countries listed otherwise the reference to such countries should be removed altogether. Paragraph 171 (c) of the document should also include domestic savings and investment.

85. A representative of the secretariat noted the concerns of the Committee and explained that its comments would be taken into account in rewriting the draft plan. He referred in particular to the importance of taste and preference, but emphasized that those factors needed to be accompanied by product differentiation. The reference to a 'lack of commitment" in paragraph 163 of the document, was introduced to explain delays by member States in executing what had been agreed upon. He further informed the Committee of previous attempts to establish a Stock Exchange Market for commodities for the countries of Eastern and Southern Africa and the subsequent lack of interest on the part of those countries

to continue with the project. The issue of stock exchange markets for African commodities could nonetheless be re-introduced in the next Medium-term Plan.

86. The Committee endorsed those subprogrammes subject to the views expressed.

Subprogramme 21: Population in Africa

87. One representative underlined the importance of this subprogramme in the light of the adverse impact of rapid population growth rates on per capita incomes and standards of living. It was proposed that paragraph 207 item (g) of the document, should be revised to reflect the provision of assistance to institutions which were already in existence. Paragraph 208 should also be revised to emphasize the "shortage" rather than the "lack" of adequately trained personnel. Paragraph 210 of the document, should include infant mortality among the research studies to be prepared. And in paragraph 217, the word "aggressive" should be replaced by the word "intensive".

88. A representative of the Secretariat informed the Committee that the necessary corrections would be incorporated in the final draft and explained the underlying causes for the lack of adequate trained personnel. He expressed the secretariat's readiness to assist with the establishment and revitalization of national population commissions information systems.

89. The Committee endorsed the subprogramme subject to the views expressed during the discussion.

Subprogramme 22: Advancement of Women in Africa

90. Some representatives felt that the subprogramme narrative did not address the concrete operational realities relative to the advancement of women. For instance, the ways and means of attaining greater participation of women in decision-making which was mentioned as a problem to be addressed in paragraph 290 of the draft plan document were not properly articulated in the strategy. It was pointed out that, there was too much emphasis on the sensitization of women's concerns when what was needed was affirmative action. It was also stressed that a distinction should be made between urban and rural women and that appropriate strategies should be established for the two groups. A few

representative observed that in the description of the situation at the end of 1981, efforts made by governments should also be highlighted. One representative suggested that the reference to inadequate access to training, credit and technologies should be reviewed and reformulated to delete completely.

91. One representative proposed that a more appropriate title for the subprogramme would be "women in development". He, however, did not insist on the proposal when a representative of the secretariat explained that the title "advancement of women" was a wider concept which captured the objectives of the subprogramme better. The same representative of the secretariat explained that the subprogramme was indeed operational and that the activities to be carried out would be spelled out in the programme budget. He further explained that the secretariat recognized the different needs of urban and rural women. It nonetheless assured the representatives that the substance of the subprogramme narrative would be reviewed in the light of their observations.

92. The Committee endorsed the subprogramme subject to the views expressed during the discussion.

Subprogramme 26. [illegible]

93. One delegation called on ECA to improve the timeliness and accuracy of its data. Another stated that there appeared to be too much emphasis on environmental statistics in the proposed plan. A third called for greater co-ordination between ECA and OAU, particularly when the two organizations fielded questionnaires.

94. A representative of the secretariat explained that ECA depended on member States for its source of data. The timeliness and accuracy of the data therefore depended on the timeliness and accuracy with which such data was provided. Environmental statistics was an important new area in ECA's activities and as such needed to be emphasized, but that would not be at the expense of other statistical areas. He assured the Committee that co-ordination with OAU would be looked into to avoid duplication of efforts.

95. The Committee endorsed the subprogramme subject to the views expressed

Subprogramme 27. Transport in Africa

Subprogramme 28. Communications in Africa

Subprogramme 29. Tourism in Africa

96. The three subprogrammes were reviewed together. Several representatives stated that the subprogrammes were clearly formulated. One representative said that necessary resources should be allocated to the transport and communications subprogrammes as they were vital for the transformation of African economies. He proposed the following amendments. In paragraph 262 of the document, remove the reference to lack of integrated planning since difficulties encountered were also due to other factors such as financial difficulties, in paragraph 263, replace "have not been able" by "were not in a position", and in paragraph 291 reflect the actual problems encountered instead of simply indicating the inability or unwillingness of member States.

97. Several representatives stated that emphasis should be put on the difficulties encountered by member States during the implementation of institution building activities rather than the lack of policy or unwillingness on their part.

98. One representative suggested that paragraph 319(a) of the document should be extended to reflect the assistance of the secretariat to member States in the formulation of their projects and during negotiation with transnational corporations.

99. Responding to the comments, a representative of the secretariat said that the observations were well noted and that they would be reflected in the revised document. He acknowledged that member states encountered financial difficulties but felt that inspite of that, member states should make some effort to fulfill their commitments.

100. The Committee endorsed these subprogrammes subject to the views expressed.

Subprogramme 30: Management of technical co-operation activities

Subprogramme 31: Planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation

Subprogramme 32 Conference services

Subprogramme 33. Administrative and common services

101. The Committee felt that the objectives of subprogramme 30: Management of technical co-operation activities should be redrafted to take into account the changing international aid and technical assistance climate. The language and concepts used in the text were especially too nebulous and had no operational content. Emphasis should be put on the promotion of projects among African countries with a view to promoting self-reliance. In that connection, the secretariat should emphasize assistance to member States to expand their capabilities to negotiate technical assistance resources.

102. One representative wondered why no mention was made of internal auditing in the whole ECA programme. In response, a representative of the secretariat stated that internal auditing was undertaken by Headquarters. ECA did, however, have a strong internal control mechanism.

103. The Committee endorsed the subprogrammes subject to the views expressed during the discussion.

Subprogramme structure and the number of subprogrammes (agenda item 7(b))

104. In a brief introduction of this agenda item, a representative of the secretariat reminded the Committee of the overriding concern for a limited number of subprogrammes which at the same time reflected the main focus of the programme.

105. Several representatives were of the opinion that the number of subprogrammes, as presented, was ideal. The subprogrammes were formulated on the basis of the overall orientation of the programme and as such, adequately reflected the main concerns of African countries as they made efforts to move out of the prevailing economic and social crisis. The subprogrammes fully reflected the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action. A reduction in their number would certainly obscure some of the issues.

106. Some representatives stated, however, that some room existed for the possible merger of a few related subprogrammes and the disaggregation of a few others in order to rationalize and focus the issues more. They made the following proposals.

(a) Merge subprogrammes 2. Agricultural development policy, planning and programming, with subprogramme 3: Development of sustainable agricultural systems into one subprogramme,

(b) Merge the social aspects of subprogramme 7. Socio-economic analysis, planning and projections; with subprogramme 11, to constitute a complete subprogramme on social development, or alternatively;

(c) Split subprogramme 7. Socio-economic analysis, planning and projections into two subprogrammes, namely, (i) Economic research and forecasting, and (ii) Social research and analysis,

(d) Merge subprogramme 14. Human settlements in Africa, subprogramme 20: Energy and development in Africa, together with 13: Environment in Africa under the title of Environment in Africa,

(e) Introduce a new subprogramme under industrial development in Africa to focus on medium- and small-scale industries,

(f) Merge subprogramme 32: Conference services and subprogramme 33. Administrative and conference services, into one subprogramme, with the title: Administrative and conference services,

(g) Merge subprogramme 6: water and living marine resources with subprogramme 19. water resources,

(h) Merge subprogramme 27. Transport in Africa, and subprogramme 28 Communications in Africa, into one subprogramme. Transport and communications in Africa.

107. The Deputy Executive Secretary drew the attention of the Committee to the fact that the number of subprogrammes had been reduced from about 29 substantive and support service subprogrammes in the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 33 in the proposed plan.

108. The Ad Hoc Committee was of the view that the subprogramme structure could be retained as presented by the secretariat.

Designation of priorities among subprogrammes (agenda item 4 (c))

109. The Ad hoc Committee debated the issue of priority setting at length. It fully recognized that the United Nations was operating in a situation of severe resource constraints which made the ordering of priorities an imperative necessity. Africa was, however, a priority region of the United Nations and the urgency of its needs has been widely recognized by the international community as evidenced by the adoption by that community, of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD). The Ad hoc Committee was of the firm view that each and every subprogramme in the programme - Regional Co-operation for Development in Africa, was consistent with the priorities designated in UN-PAAERD. The Committee was, moreover, fully convinced that the full and complete implementation of the proposed programme would contribute substantially to the combined effort of the United Nations to address the critical situation in Africa. It was in that light that the Ad hoc Committee decided to urge the Secretary General to treat all the subprogrammes in the proposed programme as a priority for Africa and to allocate adequate resources to each of them for their effective implementation.

Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting (agenda item 5)

110. After making the necessary amendments on 13 October 1989, the Ad Hoc Committee adopted the present report together with the resolution on the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997.

111. The Chairman declared the meeting closed.